Parallel Railway Line between Lucknow and Varanasi

4578. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was/is any proposal for laying a parallel line and also its electrification between Lucknow and Varanasi Via Sultanpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof, with target date, if any; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Double line (parallel) exists from Lucknow to Utraitia and Jafarabad to Varanasi. A survey for doubling of the balance portion of line between Utraitia and Jafarabad via Sultanpur (220 kms.) sanctioned in October 1994 at a cost of Rs. 13.20 lakhs has been taken up by the Railway. Further consideration of the project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

There is, however at present no proposal to electrify Lucknow-Varanasi section due to constraints of resources and priority for other high density routes.

(c) Does not arise.

12.00 NOON

(The Deputy Chairman in the Chair)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (1994-95) of the Central Work Council, New Delhi and Related Papers

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): Madam, I lay on the Table—

(a) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) of section 8A of the Wakf Act, 1954:—

(i) Annual Report of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95.

(ii) Annual Accounts of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, for the year 1994-95, and the Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Review by Government on the working of the above Council, (b) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above.

[Placed in Library for (a) & (b) *See* No. LT 2051/97]

I. Memorandum of understanding between Govt, of India (Ministry of Steel) and the Steel Authority of India Limited. For the year 1997-98

II. Memorandum of Understanding between Govt, of India (Ministry of Mines/and the Hindustan Zinc Limited.) for the year 1997-98

III. Memorandum of Understanding between Govt, of India (Ministry of Mines/and the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited) for the year 1997-98

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) Madam, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

I. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Steel) and Steel Authority of India Limited, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT2056/97]

II. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Mines) and Hindustan Zinc Limited, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2054/97)

III. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of